

Defense Leadership and Management Program (DLAMP)

NATIONAL SECURITY FOUNDATION COURSE POLICY

Approved January 21, 2004

Background: DLAMP participants are required to successfully complete the prescribed foundation course(s) in national security policy, strategy and decision making prior to attending senior-level Professional Military Education (PME). It is to the participant's advantage to arrive at PME fully prepared to participate in and contribute to the learning environment. Foundation courses will be provided by one or more vendors, using existing "off-the-shelf" products.

Objectives: The purpose and learning objectives of the prescribed foundation course are as follows:

- Purpose: To familiarize the student with:
 - The major classical theorists on military strategy and how their approaches influence current strategists;
 - The contemporary debates about grand strategy; and
 - The major scholarly and practitioner literature in the field.
- Learning Objectives: Upon successful completion, the student should demonstrate an understanding of the following issues and concepts:
 - The major theoretical approaches of classical strategists;
 - The major trends in the development of strategy in the 20th and 21st centuries;
 - The on-going debate as to what should be the critical elements of post-Cold War strategy;
 - Issues surrounding military strategy versus grand strategy; and
 - The role of special operations in overall national strategy framework.

Enrollment Priorities: To maximize participant preparation for senior-level PME, the following priorities apply:

Priority 1 – A participant who has been nominated to attend PME in the upcoming year.

Priority 2 – A participant whose approved Individual Development Plan indicates that they will apply to attend PME in the following year.

Priority 3 – Other participants on the PME track.

Priority 4 – All other participants who have not completed the national security foundation requirement.

Course Equivalencies: DLAMP participants who have completed comparable formal coursework may request a waiver of this requirement. Waivers requested based on work experience will not be approved. Waiver requests must show evidence of all of the following:

- Prior graduate-level course work (from an accredited college or university), or completion of a military or Federal education program (recognized for graduate credit by the American Council on Education or higher);
- Comparable content, purpose and objectives;
- Equivalent to 3 graduate credit hours;
- Successful completion (e.g., a grade of B or above); and
- Completed with in the last five years.

The curriculum of the each of the policy courses previously conducted for DLAMP has been reviewed for relevance to the foundation requirement. Although all were excellent courses, they were designed to meet different objectives and each is more narrowly focused than the prescribed foundation course. The following courses have been determined to meet the foundation course requirement:

- Roots of Strategy, Georgetown University
- War and Strategy, plus either Geopolitics and Defense Policy or Defense Decision Making (NDU/SNSEE)

Participants eligible for waiver under this provision should discuss their preparation for PME with a DLAMP staff advisor and may elect to take the foundation course on a space available basis.

Procedures: DLAMP will establish a process for the submission and consideration of waiver requests. The DLAMP Program Manager will make the final determination on all waiver requests.